

SHIMOMURA et al  
Appl. No. 10/776,339  
August 11, 2004

**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

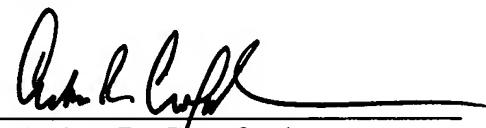
Claims 1-22 are pending in this application. Claims 18, 21 and 22 have been amended to delete multiple dependencies.

An early and favorable action on the merits is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

**NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.**

By: \_\_\_\_\_

  
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